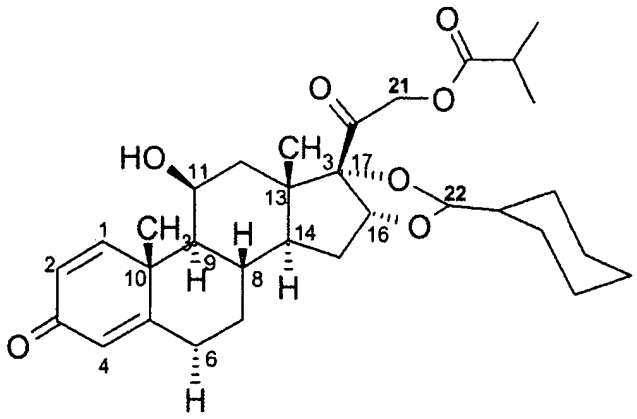
Appendix A

Claim Amendments

1. (Currently amended) ~~Process~~ A process for preparing a compound of the formula I



Formula I

in crystalline form, with defined particle size, comprising the steps of

a) ~~preparation of~~ preparing a solution of the compound of the formula I in a suitable water-miscible organic solvent;

b) adding the solution obtained **[[**as**]]** in a) to water and

c) isolating **[[**the**]]** a precipitate of the compound of the formula I which is formed.

2. (Currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the suitable water-miscible organic solvent is an alcohol.

3. (Currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to Claim 2, characterized in that the alcohol is selected from the group consisting of methanol, ethanol, N-propanol, **[[**and**]]** isopropanol **[[**or**]]** and mixtures in any mixing ratio thereof.

4. (Currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to Claim 3, characterized in that the alcohol is ethanol ~~is involved~~.

5. (Currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the suitable water-miscible organic solvent is selected from the group consisting of acetone, tetrahydrofuran **[[**or**]]** and dimethylformamide ~~is involved~~.

6. (Currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the temperature of the suitable water-miscible organic solvent is in the range

from 15°C to 10°C below the boiling point of the solvent.

7. (Currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to Claim 6, characterized in that the temperature of the suitable water-miscible organic solvent corresponds to the room temperature at which the process is carried out.

8. (Currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the temperature of the water is from 10 to 50°C.

9. (Currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to Claim 7, characterized in that the temperature of the water corresponds to the room temperature at which the process is carried out.

10. (Currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the compound of the formula I has the chemical name 16,17-[(cyclohexylmethylene)bis(oxy)]-11-hydroxy-21-(2-methyl-1-oxopropoxy)pregna-1,4-diene-3,20-dione [11beta,

16alpha (R,S)].

11. (Currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the compound of the formula I is substantially in the form of the R epimer.

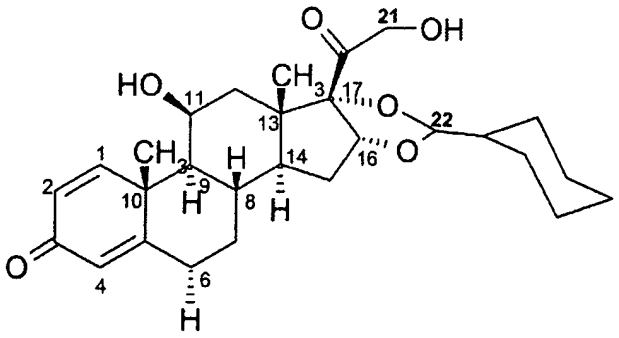
12. (Currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to Claim 11, characterized in that the proportion of R epimer in the compound of the formula I is more than 95%.

13. (Currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to Claim 11, characterized in that the compound of the formula I is ciclesonide ~~is involved~~.

14. (Currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the precipitate obtained **[[**after**]]** in step c) is subsequently dried.

15. (Currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process for preparing a compound of the formula I according to Claim 1 in crystalline form with defined particle size, comprising the steps of

a) preparing a compound of the formula I by acylation of a compound of the formula II



Formula II

with a suitable acylating agent;

b) crystallizing the compound of the formula I obtained in a) by adding water to a solution of the compound in a suitable water-miscible organic solvent or heating a suspension of the compound of the formula I in a mixture of a suitable water-miscible organic solvent and water,

c) removing the resulting R epimer-enriched precipitate of the compound of the formula I from the water/solvent mixture;

d) if desired repeating step b);

e) preparing a solution of the compound obtained in c) in a suitable water-miscible organic solvent;

f) adding the solution obtained **[[**as**]]** in e) to water and

g) isolating **[[**the**]]** a precipitate which has been formed of the compound of the formula I.

16. (Currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to Claim 1, where the particle size is characterized by an X_{50} of less than or equal to 10.

17. (Currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to Claim 16, where the particle size is characterized by an X_{50} **[[**of**]]** in the range from 1.8 to 2.0.

18. (Currently amended) ~~Process~~ The process according to Claim 15, where the organic solvents used in steps b) and e) are the same solvents.

19. (Currently amended) ~~Compound~~ A compound of the formula I obtainable according to the process of Claim 1 without a further micronization step, where the compound is in inhalable form.

20. (Currently amended) ~~Compound~~ The compound according to

Claim 19, ~~where the particle size of~~ wherein the compound of the formula I has a particle size characterized by an X_{50} in the range from 1.8 to 2.0.

21. (Currently amended) ~~Compound~~ The compound according to claim 19 ~~Claims 19 or 20~~, which ~~compound~~ is not in micronized form.

22. (Currently amended) ~~Crystalline~~ A crystalline ciclesonide with a particle size characterized by an X_{50} of less than or equal to 10.

23. (Currently amended) ~~Crystalline~~ A crystalline ciclesonide with a particle size characterized by an X_{50} **[[**of**]]** in the range from 1.8 to 2.0.

24. (Currently amended) ~~Crystalline~~ A crystalline ciclesonide according to claim 22 ~~Claims 22 or 23~~, which ~~ciclesonide~~ is not in micronized form.

25. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical~~ A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to claim 19 ~~Claims 19 to 24~~, which compound is present as solid

particles together with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

26. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical~~ A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 25, which is an aqueous suspension of the compound.

27. (Currently amended) ~~Pharmaceutical~~ A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 25, which is a dry powder.